



# News Release

**For immediate release:** March 16, 2011

(11-041)

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

## Chelan County

In January 2011 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program denied the application of **Santo S. Martinez** (CG60183213). In February 2009 he was convicted of theft. He failed to disclose the conviction on his application.

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Jennifer I. McManus** (NC10041336) with unprofessional conduct. She was allegedly verbally and physically abusive to a vulnerable adult patient.

In February 2011 the Massage Program placed the license of **Nichole C. Rueth** (MA00016599) on probation for three years. In March 2010 she was convicted of theft. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In February 2011 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program granted the application of **Cynthia Lea Zellner** (CG60183248) and placed her registration on probation for two years. In February 2004 she was convicted of two counts of unlawful issuance of a bank check, and in May 2007 she was convicted of possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine, and driving under the influence. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

### **King County**

In February 2011 the Massage Program terminated the order of probation against **John D. Atkinson** (MA00022085).

In February 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Susan J. Eagan** (MD00049436) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly entered into a sexual relationship with a patient.

In February 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program terminated the order of probation against **Theresa Y. Hawkins** (HC00156691).

In February 2011 the Board of Hearing and Speech terminated the order of probation against speech language pathologist **Elizabeth Patricia Holcomb** (LL60025305). She's also known as Elizabeth Patricia Baker.

In February 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Melissa Madrid** (RN00164694) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to transfer the care of two patients to other nurses before leaving her nursing assignment.

In February 2011 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Thomas Scheerens** (RN00124123). He failed to comply with terms and conditions set against his license. He must comply with new terms and conditions set against his license.

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Shawn W. Young** (NA00182902) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly patted a patient's mouth in an effort to make the patient eat dinner faster resulting in a bruise on the patient's lip.

### **Kitsap County**

In January 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program denied the application of chemical dependency professional trainee applicant **Charles J. Williams** (CO60196688). Between October 2003 and September 2008 he was convicted of eight gross misdemeanors, and violation of a court order — domestic violence, a class C felony.

### **Lewis County**

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Tami G. McGinty** (NA00057029) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly took money from a recently deceased patient without permission.

### **Mason County**

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Jessica Leigh Woolery** (NC60196255) and placed her certification on probation for one year. In August 2010 she was convicted of theft. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

### **Pierce County**

In February 2011 the Radiologic Technologist Program released **James H. Diamond** (RT60028191) from terms and conditions set against his credential.

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Edna W. Dizon** (NA00165264) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly struck a vulnerable adult patient twice on the back, and yelled at the patient.

In February 2011 the Secretary of Health amended the statement of charges against licensed practical nurse and massage therapist **Eugene M. Ulrich** (LP00057726, MA00008295). He allegedly engaged in sexual conduct with a vulnerable adult patient.

### **Skagit County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission terminated the order of probation against licensed practical nurse **Clarissa S. Fortner** (LP00053082).

### **Spokane County**

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of registered nursing assistant applicant **Gina M. Bowen** (NA60194949). In March 2005 she was convicted of driving under the influence, in July 2005 she was convicted of theft, and in December 2010 she was charged with assault — domestic violence. In May 2004 her certification to practice as a health care assistant in Washington was indefinitely suspended.

In February 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician assistant **Steven M. Featherkile** (PA10003559) with unprofessional conduct. In March 2010 he was convicted of three counts of causing a materially false representation to be made for use in determining the right to payment under a federal healthcare program (Medicaid) for medical services provided to three patients.

In January 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program denied the application of **Tina Valendria Montgomery** (HC60089389). She tested positive for drugs during a random drug screen test, and was terminated from her place of employment on the grounds of job abandonment.

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Jessica L. Realing** (NA00194136) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly took money belonging to patients from their rooms without permission.

### **Stevens County**

In February 2011 the Licensed Mental Health Counselor Program charged **Layne Serr** (LH00004674) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly represented himself as a psychologist when he doesn't hold a license to practice as a psychologist in Washington. He also failed to report sexual abuse of minors by his clients to authorities.

### **Thurston County**

In February 2011 the Medical Commission modified the agreed order against the license of physician **Donald R. Miller** (MD00026759) and placed his license on probation for an indefinite period of time. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In February 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program denied the application of **Jolene R. Peters** (HC60087702). In 2010 her credentials to practice as a health care assistant were suspended for two years.

### **Whatcom County**

In February 2011 the Veterinary Board of Governors granted the application of veterinary technician **Meghan R. Dietz** (AT60148365) and placed conditions against her credential. In April 2001 and September 2005 she was convicted of driving while ability impaired.

### **Out of State**

**California:** In January 2011 the Medical Commission denied the application of physician assistant applicant **Clark J. Bishop** (PA60146185). In January 2005 he was arrested and pleaded no contest for the crime of driving while having a 0.08 percent or higher blood alcohol. He failed to submit to an evaluation as requested by the commission.

**Virginia:** In March 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional **Linda F. Schauer** (CP60109882) and placed her license on probation. In December 2010 her license to practice as a mental health counselor was placed on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health website at <a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov">http://www.doh.wa.gov</a> for <i>a healthy dose of information</i> .
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